

VENONA

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USSR

Ref. No: 3/NBF/T1 243 (of 31/12/1959)

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RE-ISSUE

"ARTHUR's" U.S. NAVAL CONTACTS (1943)

From: WASHINGTON

To: MOSCOW

No: 1555

8 July 43

To: [Name No. 42].^[1]ARTHUR^[11] has reported:

1. Recently the Americans have more than once told him about the concentration of a combined Japanese force on PARAMUSHIR (naval and air forces). They are asking questions as to whether this is being done with a view to starting offensive operations against the Americans on ATTU or against KAMCHATKA. The composition of the forces was not reported.

2. In connection with the arrival of our ice-breaker "JOSEPH STALIN" ARTHUR was visited by an officer who described himself as Captain of one of the five big U.S. ice-breakers which are being rebuilt in LOS ANGELES, and who said [E] that ice-breakers were not being used at present. The Americans had no experience of navigation in ice and therefore would be glad to take part in our ice-breaking campaign in

[19 groups unrecoverable]

[61 groups unrecovered]

3. In the ALEUTIANS and at other points

[42 groups unrecovered]

excavators

[11 groups unrecovered]

possibly similar excavators and road-building machinery will soon [2 groups unrecovered]

No. 488

[Name No. 91]^[111]Distribution

[Comments overleaf]

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Comments: [i] Name No. 42 : Possibly Capt. (1st Rank) M. A. VORONTsOV.
[ii] ARTHUR : Unidentified cover-name.
[iii] Name No. 91 : Probably Capt. (1st Rank) I. A. EGORICHEV,
Soviet Naval Attaché in WASHINGTON.

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